

# MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

## ST. TAMMANY PARISH

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22 July 2021

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Kevin A. Caillouet, *Ph.D., M.S.P.H.*

LOUISIANA ETHICS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

P.O. Box 4368

Baton Rouge , Louisiana 70821

Dear Louisiana Board of Ethics Commissioners:

We request an advisory opinion regarding the distribution of potential future royalties from the sale or licensing of a device which the St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement District (STPMAD) and its public employees/inventors currently hold a provisional patent.

### FACTS

The St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement District is a parish-wide public agency which receives its funding as an independent taxing body. Employees of STPMAD are public servants. The Board of Commissioners for STPMAD has adopted an intellectual property policy to incentivize creativity among its employees which allows for the distribution of profits or royalties on a 50:50 basis between the agency and the employee inventors.

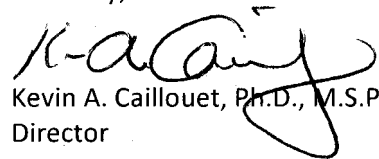
The patent-pending device aims to eliminate a source of mosquito production by reducing sewage pollution from onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS). The agency plans to engage the St. Tammany Parish Council to develop codes and ordinances that would require property owners to use such a device to monitor their OWTS.

### QUESTIONS

- 1) Can the agency and/or its employee/inventors receive royalties from the sale or licensing of its invention to purchasers outside of its jurisdiction of collected property tax funds (St. Tammany Parish)?
- 2) Can the agency engage the St. Tammany Parish Council to develop codes and ordinances that would require property owners to use such a device to monitor their OWTS if the product is offered to St. Tammany Parish residents/purchasers at cost (no royalty or net profit received)?

We look forward to your review and opinion. We standby ready to offer clarity to any point or question.

Sincerely,



Kevin A. Caillouet, *Ph.D., M.S.P.H.*  
Director

ETHICS BOARD RECORD  
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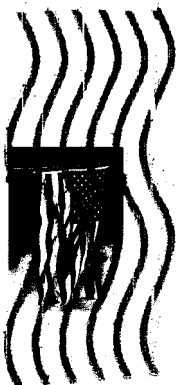
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